THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) INSAT-1D has a design life of seven years. Presently it is estimated that about 135 kg of propellant is left on-board. There was remarkable success in effecting fuel economy in the various steps for making the satellite finally operational. This leads to a life estimate of approximately 8½ years.

(c) INSAT-1D satellite is identical to INSAT-1B and the capacity for TV and Telecommunications is the same as that in INSAT-1B.

Development of INSAT-II series of satellites

3050. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress in the development of INSAT-II series of satellites;

(b) whether INSAT-II series will be launched into the orbit by Indian launchers;

(c) if so, what has been the progress in the development of rockets which would launch INSAT-II series of satellites;

(d) by when the first INSAT-II series satellite is likely to go into orbit;

(e) what is the capacity planned for the first INSAT-II satellite, as compared to INSAT-1B and INSAT-1D; and

(f) whether Government would consider hiring slots from Intelsat to augment satellite capacity in view of the delay which has occurred due to various reasons including INSAT-1C failure INSAT-1D delay and further delay in development of INSAT-II?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) The INSAT-II Test Spacecraft design and construction is now in its 65th month. INSAT-II Electrical Thermal model integration has been completed and integrated satellite tests are going on. The Structural Model has also been integrated and all the dynamic tests have been completed successfully Flight model units fabrication is progressing. Fabrication of Flight Model structure and other sub-systems is underway.

(b) The first two INSAT-II Satellites are scheduled to be launched by Ariane launchers (launch vehicles of Arianespace).

(c) The systems designs of Geosynchronous Satllite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) capable of launching gecstationary satellites have been completed. The GSLV-1 launcher capable of launching INSAT class of satellites into geostationary orbit is expected to be ready in four years after the approval of the project.

(d) The first of the INSAT-II satellites (INSAT-II A) is scheduled to be launched by end 1991.

(e) Each INSAT-II Satellite has 12 C-band transponders, 6 extended C-band transponders 2 S-band transponders. the meteorological payload and a Search & Rescue package as compared to 12 C-band transponders, 2 S-band transponders and meteorological payload in INSAT-1 series.

(f) The Department of Telecommunications has hired two transponders capacity from INTELSAT to augment the INSAT Satellite capacity. Government has also hired 12 C-band transponders from ARABSAT Organisation and these will be available till 30th September 1991.

Public Sector undertakings without regular Chief Executives

3051. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the PIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred